

What it Means for Eligible Professionals in Washington

The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program is open to eligible professionals practicing in the State of Washington. These include:

- Physicians (primarily doctors of medicine and doctors of osteopathy)
- Nurse practitioners
- Certified nurse-midwives
- Dentists
- Physician assistants who furnish services in a Federally Qualified Health Center or Rural Health Clinic that is led by a physician assistant

Attesting to Meaningful Use

The Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Program

The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program provides incentive payments to Eligible Professionals (EPs) as they adopt, implement, upgrade (AIU) or demonstrate meaningful use of certified EHR technology in their first year of participation and demonstrate meaningful use of this technology for up to five remaining participation years. Find out more about eligibility and if you qualify at <http://www.healthit.wa.gov/ehr/providers.html>.

You can receive up to \$63,750 over six years if you are eligible to participate in the program.

Applicants entering their **first year** of the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program do not have to meet Meaningful Use requirements. They may qualify for having adopted, implemented or upgraded (AIU) a certified EHR.

Participants entering their **second year** of participation in the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program will need to meet Meaningful Use requirements to qualify for incentive payments. Registration information provided to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services during **year one** of the program will carry over to **year two**.

Washington Medicaid has adopted the general set of core and menu objectives issued by CMS for Meaningful Use. No additional state specific objectives have been added, and the Medicaid EHR attestation process will allow eligible professionals to indicate exceptions for core measures that are outside the scope of their practice.

Washington Medicaid is now accepting individual attestations for Stage 1 Meaningful Use.

Washington Medicaid will not require all Meaningful Use applicants to provide supporting documentation at the point of attestation. Documentation demonstrating that individual objectives have been met may be requested from eligible professionals at any time during pre-payment review or post-payment audits. Each state has the authority to establish pre-payment and post-payment eligibility requirements.

How to Attest

- Log on to ProviderOne at waproviderone.org, choose your profile and select EHR Incentive Program from the links menu in the upper right. This will take you to eMIPP.
- At the eMIPP welcome screen, click start. On the next page, enter your registration ID. Carefully review the information from your CMS registration. If everything looks correct, click Eligibility.
- In the eligibility section, you will edit Year 1 eligibility information and fill out the eligibility form with the necessary information.
- After filling out your eligibility information, click Attestation.
- Before attesting electronically, print and sign a paper copy of your attestation for your records.
- To attest electronically (required), click the box labeled "I accept the terms and conditions," and click Register to submit your application for payment. Click OK to confirm your submission.
- The system will confirm your application submission. Click on Logout to close the eMIPP system.

Download a PDF with detailed instructions for providers and groups at <http://www.healthit.wa.gov/ehr/resources.html>

Meeting Public Health Objectives

The Washington State Department of Health has the ability to support data submissions to meet all public health objectives. Detailed instructions can be found at: www.doh.wa.gov/HealthIT.

If you want to connect with healthcare organizations throughout Washington, the OneHealthPort HIE can help you do it. This statewide Health Information Exchange is one way for health care organizations to share clinical or business information with multiple organizations in standardized message formats and meet the requirement of electronic exchange of health information to qualify for Meaningful Use incentive payments. More information is available at <http://www.onehealthport.com/hieindex.php>.

For More Information

Stay on top of the latest updates by signing up for the Medicaid Health IT Today newsletter here: <https://fortress.wa.gov/dshs/hrsalistsrvsignup/>. Check the box for Health Information Technology to subscribe.

There are two public health Stage 1 Meaningful Use criteria for eligible professionals. For health care providers who give vaccines, immunization registries are the preferred choice. For others, there is syndromic surveillance.

Immunization Registry

The Department of Health is currently accepting electronic exchange of immunization records with the Washington State Immunization Information System (formerly the Child Profile Immunization Registry).

To set up a data exchange with the registry, health care providers should contact registry operations staff by email at cphelpdesk@kingcounty.gov, by phone at 206-205-4141, or toll free at 1-800-325-5599.

Providers who are already enrolled in the registry and participating in the State Universal Vaccine Program will be given higher priority than those not yet enrolled. Health care providers must use certified EHR technology systems and give vaccines.

Syndromic Surveillance

The Department of Health is also currently accepting electronic submission of syndromic surveillance messages from Eligible Professionals on a case-by-case basis.

EPs interested in pursuing the syndromic surveillance Meaningful Use objective may submit an enrollment form at www.doh.wa.gov/HealthIT/mu.htm. EPs will be notified if a test message is required to place their clinic in the queue (which fulfills the submission requirement for Stage 1), or if the EP is granted an exclusion, in which case they should explore immunization registries. Ongoing submission of data from most EPs will likely not be requested until Stage 2.

Once available, the preferred way to exchange information is through the Statewide Health Information Exchange. In the interim, the Department of Health is using Secure File Transport (SFT) or PHINMS. Additional information is available at: www.doh.wa.gov/HealthIT.

For assistance with syndromic surveillance, contact DOH Informatics Customer Service Center by email at informatics.csc@doh.wa.gov. If an EP must provide documentation demonstrating they meet the public health objectives in support of their Medicaid EHR Incentive Request, the Department of Health will provide electronic confirmation.

Information about the State of Washington's EHR Incentive Program is available at the Health Care Authority's web site: <http://www.hca.wa.gov/ehr>.

If you need more information about the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program, visit the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services web site: <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/>.

General guidance for meeting Meaningful Use can be found at: https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/Meaningful_Use.html.